GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:257
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2000
SUPPLY OF FERTILISERS TO BIHAR
NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Bihar Government for the supply of fertilisers during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have been able to check the production of adulterated and spurious fertilisers in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government to meet the demand of fertilisers of the said State ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE)

(a), (b) & (e): Urea is the only fertilizer under Price and Distribution (Control) ofGovernment of India and of which demand is met through allocation to States and companies under Essential Commodities Act, 1955. The demand and supply vis-Ã -vissales of urea in Bihar during last year was as under:-

(`000 MTs)

	Kharif`99	Rabi`1999-2000
Demand/ Assessed requirement	725.00	650.00
Supply	861.65	796.21
Sales	692.11	663.56

All fertilizers other than urea are decontrolled and no allocation is made for them under Essential Commodities Act. The availability of decontrolled fertilisers is dependent on market forces. However, in case of need, on request of the State, supply of major decontrolled fertilizers like DAP and MOP is augmented through buffer stocks beingoperated by M/s. Indian Potash Ltd. (IPL)No specific request was received from the Government of Bihar for augmentation of supply of decontrolled fertilizer during 1999- 2000.

(c) &(d): The quality control of fertilisers is the concern of the State Government. To ensure production of standard fertilizers as per the quality norms laid down under Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985, the State Governments take fertilizer samples onrandom basis for quality test. There are 66 notified fertilizer-testing laboratories through out the country. Out of these, two laboratories are in Bihar State and one in newly formed Jharkhand State. In case samples are found sub-standard, legal actions are taken against the defaulting manufacturers/suppliers.